

STAFFORD STAR

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STAFFORD COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Message from Sheriff Jett

First of all I want to thank so many of you for your very generous participation and hard work in the August National Night Out. It spoke of your commitment to your community and your very real interest in helping to keep your community safe and crime free.

Halloween is coming up on Wednesday, October 31. With that in mind, as we have in the past, the Sheriff's Office will have a visible presence in all of the neighborhoods. This is a fun and exciting time of the year for our younger citizens

and we want to make ensure that they have an enjoyable, but safe Halloween evening. We will also be x-raying candy/treats at the Sheriff's Office which is located at the Public Safety Center at 1225 Courthouse Road, from 5:00 – 9:00 pm on Halloween night. Please note that the x-ray process can detect the presence of pins, needles or other metallic objects but not the presence of poisons/substances, wood or other non-metallic objects.



Once again I would like to thank all of you for your dedication to your community and Stafford County. It is noted and appreciated!!

Sheriff Jett

Building the Foundation of Community and Law Enforcement Partnerships

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Upcoming Events

- **Scam Buster's (Business Watch)**
2nd Tuesday of each month
Tuesday, October 9 (2PM at PSC)
Tuesday, November 13 (2PM at PSC)
Tuesday, December 11 (2PM at PSC)
- **Shredding**– October 13,, 2012 8am-12pm
(Stafford County Public Safety Building)
- **Candy X-Ray**– October 31, 2012 5-9pm SCSO
- **Veterans Day**- November 12, 2012
Stafford County Offices Closed
- **Thanksgiving Holiday** November 21, 22, 23
Stafford County Offices Closed Half day
- **Thanksgiving Holiday** November 22, 23
Stafford County Offices Closed



I didn't think that it could get any better, or that our community could support us even more than they do - but every year more and more people come out in support of National Night Out. We increased both business and visitor participation by at least 50%. It is estimated that approximately 5,000 people came out for National Night Out County wide. We were extremely honored that Virginia Secretary of Public Safety, Marla Graff Decker joined us later in the evening. The Sheriff's Department asked the vendors to come and get a picture taken with her at 8:30 p.m., unfortunately, there were still so many people around, that only a few were able to get their picture with her.

Business Corner

SCAM BUSTERS WORKS!



You either work for a business or visit a business almost every day. It is important to be aware of the various crime trends that are occurring in and around Stafford County!

At the **Scam Busters** meetings, area businesses share and learn what the crime trends are in the area. There can be pictures, videos, descriptions, and specific incidents shared! Criminal cases have been solved because of the information shared at this meeting!

Tuesday, October 9, 2012	2-3 PM	Stafford Public Safety Center (1225 Courthouse Rd.)
Tuesday, November 13, 2012	2-3 PM	Stafford Public Safety Center (1225 Courthouse Rd.)
Tuesday, December 11, 2012	2-3 PM	Stafford Public Safety Center (1225 Courthouse Rd.)

Come to a Scam Busters meeting to learn ...
what is happening, what could happen, and how to help prevent loss for you company!

For more information, contact Deputy Jim Hamilton 540-658-4112 or jhamilton@co.stafford.va.us



Teen Driving Safety: Graduated Driver Licensing saves lives

As teens go back to school this fall, many of them will transition from the safest mode of transportation – school buses, to the most dangerous – driving themselves. The back-to-school season is a great time to learn about Graduated Driver Licensing (GDL) and what practices will work best for your family.



What is GDL?

Graduated Driver Licensing allows teens to practice driving skills in low risk situations, moving through driver license stages with gradually increasing responsibility. Motor vehicle crashes kill more teens than homicide, suicide and disease combined, mostly due to inexperience and distractions.

Motor vehicle crashes are the No. 1 cause of death for teens.

Passing a driver's test alone does not make a young driver "experienced." It takes time and practice to gain the experience needed to be a responsible driver. GDL is a learning process that keeps new drivers safe by maximizing experience and minimizing risks. And while it may be more convenient for a teen to drive on his or her own, it's much safer for a parent to drive multiple teens or for teens to drive alone. This will keep your teen as safe as possible.

Teaching teens about GDL

GDL reduces teen driver crashes and deaths by up to 40 percent.

Parents need to make a commitment to work closely with their teens to manage their driving experience and also should set a good example by modeling the behavior they expect. You can implement life-saving GDL practices in your home by following these six tips:

Extend the learner's permit period

Prolonging the period in which a novice driver practices with parent supervision increases the teen's driving experience. With a learner's permit stage of at least 6 months – and practice at nighttime and in inclement weather – a teen will better develop his or her skills.

Set a nighttime driving restriction

Most nighttime fatal teen crashes happen in the hours before midnight, according to teen driver crash data. NSC recommends no unsupervised driving after 10 p.m., and earlier is even better.

Set a passenger restriction

According to the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety, one passenger increases a teen's crash risk by 48 percent, and the risk grows dramatically as more passengers are added. NSC recommends zero passengers allowed during a teen's first 12 months of driving.

Ban cell phone use while driving

NSC estimates that 24 percent of all crashes involve cell phone use, and NHTSA found that the percentage of drivers visibly manipulating hand-held devices while driving is significantly higher among drivers age 16 to 24 than those of other age groups. Cell phone use should be banned among all drivers, and parents should lead by setting a good example.

Make safety belts mandatory

Safety belts are the most effective safety device in vehicles and everyone should be buckled in at all times. NHTSA data shows wearing a safety belt can reduce the risk of crash injuries by 50 percent or more.

Prohibit alcohol

According to NHTSA, 20 percent of young drivers ages 16 and 17 who were killed in crashes had been drinking. Every state has a zero tolerance law for underage drivers, meaning teens should not have any measurable alcohol in their system.

Safety
at HOME

National Safety Council

saves lives by preventing injuries and deaths at work, in homes and communities, and on the roads, through leadership, research, education and advocacy.

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ITASCA, IL 60143
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customerservice@nsc.org

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Ask Crime Prevention

The Crime Prevention Unit would like to answer questions you may have about various law enforcement subjects (such as terminology, D.A.R.E. Program, upcoming events, etc.). If you have any questions, call us at 540-658-4030, fax us at 540-658-4039, or email us

crimeprevention@co.stafford.va.us.

IDENTITY THEFT

If you are a victim, taking the following steps immediately will help you reduce both the monetary damage and time spent cleaning up your credit:

- Contact all three major credit reporting bureaus and request a fraud alert be placed on your credit file
- Consider going a step farther and placing a security freeze on your credit file
- Order your free credit report from each bureau, and examine it carefully for fraud. Send written dispute if you find errors
- Continue to check your reports periodically to make sure no new activity has occurred.
- Contact all creditors, starting with the accounts that have been tampered with or opened fraudulently. Close those accounts, even if you originally opened them.
- File a police report



Visit McGruff online at:

www.McGruff.org

Child Safety Info

More information about child safety can be found on our website

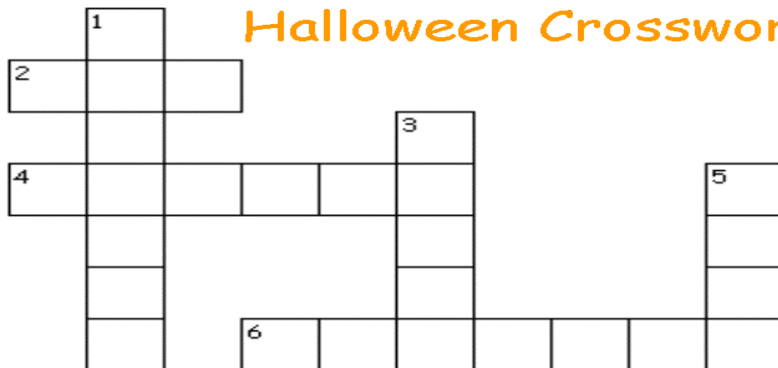
www.staffordsheriff.com/content/childsafety/

and

www.staffordsheriff.com/content/safkids/



Halloween Crossword



Across

2.



4.



6.



Down

1.



3.



5.



KNOW THE RULES...

HALLOWEEN SAFETY TIPS



1. Be sure older children **TAKE FRIENDS** and younger children are accompanied by a **TRUSTED ADULT** when "Trick or Treating."
2. Accompany younger children to the door of every home they approach and make sure parents and guardians are familiar with every home and all people from which the children receive treats.
3. Teach children to **NEVER** enter a home without prior permission from their parents or guardians.
4. Teach children to **NEVER** approach a vehicle, occupied or not, unless they know the owner and are accompanied by a parent or guardian.
5. Make sure all children wear reflective clothing and carry a glow stick when out at dusk and at night.
6. Make sure children are able to see and breathe properly and easily when using facial masks. All costumes and masks should be clearly marked as flame resistant.
7. Teach children to **NEVER** approach a home that is not well lit both inside and outside.
8. Teach children to stay alert and remember any suspicious incidents and report them to their parents, guardians, and/or the proper authority.
9. Teach children if anyone tries to grab them to make a scene; loudly yell this person is not my father/mother/guardian; and make every effort to get away by kicking, screaming, and resisting.
10. Families may want to organize or attend parties at home, in schools, or in community centers as a good alternative to "Trick or Treating."

For more information about child-safety topics, please visit our website or contact us at

OJJDP Office of Juvenile Justice
and Delinquency Prevention
Office of Justice Programs • U.S. Department of Justice

1-800-THE-LOST® (1-800-843-5678)

www.missingkids.com

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**MISSING &
EXPLOITED**
CHILDREN®

HAVE A SAFE AND FUN HALLOWEEN!



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CANDY EXAMINED BY X-RAY

The Stafford Sheriff's Office will be providing an X-Ray service of any candy brought in **Halloween night** from **5PM – 9PM**. Take items to be scanned to the new **Stafford County Sheriff's Office building (1225 Courthouse Road)** located just west on Courthouse Road of the Courthouse and old Sheriff's Office.



STAFFORD COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

1225 Courthouse Road
Stafford VA 22554

www.staffordsheriff.com

Non-Emergency 540-658-4400
Crime Prevention 540-658-4030
E-mail:
crimeprevention@staffordcountyva.gov



MISSION STATEMENT

We, the men and women of the Stafford County Sheriff's Office, in partnership with the community, are dedicated to enhancing the quality of life by maintaining order, protecting life and property, and reducing the fear of crime.

We will ensure the peace and safety of all citizens by upholding the Constitution of the United States and of the Commonwealth of Virginia.

As leaders of the community,
we will embrace our core beliefs:

Integrity, Compassion, Fairness, and Professionalism

Crime Doesn't Pay - Crime Solvers Does!

659-2020



Benefiting Stafford Crime Solvers

Stafford Shredding

Drive-thru
style!!!



100lbs. of shredding
material per person

Saturday, October 13
8:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Location: Stafford County Sheriff's Office;
1225 Courthouse Road Stafford, VA



Shredding provided by: **SOS Shredding** (www.SOSshredding.com)
Contact **1st Sergeant Darrell English** with questions **540/658-4428**